

Label: "East Collier FOIA 4-1-19"

Created by:leopoldo_miranda@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:96 (18 conversations)

Created: 04-01-2019 at 18:05 PM

Conversation Contents

Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP

Attachments:

/9. Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP/2.1 Alex Coley Resume.docx

"Williams, Larry" <larry_williams@fws.gov>

From: "Williams, Larry" <larry_williams@fws.gov>
Sent: Fri Aug 03 2018 13:34:08 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Jeff Weller <Jeff_Weller@fws.gov>, Michelle Eversen <michelle_eversen@fws.gov>
Leopoldo Miranda <Leopoldo_Miranda@fws.gov>, Jack Arnold <jack_arnold@fws.gov>, Robert Tawes <robert_tawes@fws.gov>,
CC: David Dell <david_dell@fws.gov>, Roxanna Hinzman <Roxanna_Hinzman@fws.gov>, Jay Herrington <jay_herrington@fws.gov>
Subject: Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP

Jeff, Michelle,

Below is a summary of the help we are looking for in developing the biological opinion (BO) for the Eastern Collier HCP. We would like to have a biologist at a station outside of Florida take the lead on developing the BO. This is a complex and controversial project, so it would be good experience for someone looking to build their regulatory skills. Because the HCP is triggering an EIS the project will engage FWS and DOI leadership, up to the Deputy Secretary, so again good experience and exposure for upcoming employees.

If anyone is interested or needs more information they should contact the Field Supervisor, Roxanna Hinzman (roxanna_hinzman@fws.gov, Desk 772-469-4309, Cell 772-532-1247). I know that people throughout the Region are super busy, so any help we could find would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Larry

The South Florida Ecological Services Field Office has been working closely with the Applicants and Regional Office on the Eastern Collier Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan. This is a programmatic project involving ten large landowners, several conservation groups, and over 150,000 acres in Southwestern Florida. It would provide coverage for take of 18 species, including the endangered Florida panther, incidental to the Applicants planned agricultural, development, and mining activities. The project is large, complex, high profile, and controversial. We have been working closely with the Applicants, and have an aggressive timeline for the permitting decision due to the requirements of Secretarial Order 3355.

To help streamline composition of the BO, the SFESFO can provide standard language from the HCP, the dEIS, status of the species reports, and other BOs. We can also provide some assistance with how the office typically does some of the analyses, if requested.

East Collier County Property Owners

HCP and EIS; section 7

S.O. 3355 Timeline

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4 March, ROD notice closes

8 March, provide EIS Review Team information memorandum on decision

25 March, begin RO Surname routing of final decision

April 27, 2019, Signature on final decision

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Larry Williams
State Supervisor for Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559
Ph: 772-469-4285
Fax: 772-778-0683
larry_williams@fws.gov

NOTE: This email correspondence and any attachments to and from this sender is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

"Arnold, Jack" <jack_arnold@fws.gov>

From: "Arnold, Jack" <jack_arnold@fws.gov>
Sent: Fri Aug 03 2018 15:41:49 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Williams, Larry" <larry_williams@fws.gov>
Jeff Weller <Jeff_Weller@fws.gov>, Michelle Eversen
<michelle_eversen@fws.gov>, Leopoldo Miranda
<Leopoldo_Miranda@fws.gov>, Robert Tawes
CC: <robert_tawes@fws.gov>, David Dell <david_dell@fws.gov>, Roxanna Hinzman <Roxanna_Hinzman@fws.gov>, Jay Herrington <jay_herrington@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP
Attachments: Alex Coley Resume.docx

All - I'd like to throw this idea out for consideration.....

Leo just forwarded out to Larry, Jeff, and Michelle a resume for Alex Coley - he currently works in WSFR. I've also attached it here for reference.

I'm wondering if he might fit in a position to backfill behind someone who could take on the East Collier County HCP biological opinion - at least for some period of time - to help do whatever the individual would otherwise work on. This may be a way to offset the workload..... and may also make another office in FL outside Vero an option as well for handling this.

Alex is a GS-12. From his resume - he indicates he has experience writing NEPA and ESA section 7 documents (I assume BA's) - and providing guidance to agency staff on same - this should give him at least a foundation to work from if he needs it.

I know we're all overworked, but this consultation needs to be a priority. This may provide an opportunity to fill a hole/get some help to ensure we can do this.

Please give this some serious consideration - and let us know if this is a possibility. We're happy to arrange further discussions with Alex and his management folks to try to make this work.

Thanks in advance.

- Jack

Jack Arnold
Deputy Assistant Regional Director - Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1875 Century Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 30345
404-679-7311 office
404-679-7081 fax
703-789-5620 cell

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sender is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

On Fri, Aug 3, 2018 at 3:34 PM, Williams, Larry <larry_williams@fws.gov> wrote:

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Larry Williams
State Supervisor for Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
[1339 20th Street](#)
[Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559](#)
[Ph: 772-469-4285](#)
[Fax: 772-778-0683](#)
larry_williams@fws.gov

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Larry Williams <larry_williams@fws.gov>

From: Larry Williams <larry_williams@fws.gov>
Sent: Sun Aug 05 2018 17:37:29 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Arnold, Jack" <jack_arnold@fws.gov>
Jeff Weller <Jeff_Weller@fws.gov>, Michelle Eversen
<michelle_eversen@fws.gov>, Leopoldo Miranda
<Leopoldo_Miranda@fws.gov>, Robert Tawes
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Subject: Re: Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP

Jack,

We are totally open to that. Is Alex interested in a detail or a permanent move? I could not tell from the email chain.

Thanks!

Larry

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 3, 2018, at 3:41 PM, Arnold, Jack <jack_arnold@fws.gov> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Request for assistance with Biological Opinion for East Collier HCP

Disregard my last email. I see now we are thinking detail. If Jeff or Michelle aren't interested/able to accommodate him on a detail we might be able to detail him into Jax or Panama City, in the arrangement you suggested, Jack. Jay, please give that consideration Thanks!

Alex Coley

(b) (6)

Job Title: Supervisory Biologist

Job Announcement Number: 18-SVQ1RES-468111G-SBB-REV1

PROFILE

Citizenship: United States

Veteran's Preference: N/A

Federal Civilian Status: Career

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FISH & WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

10/2013 to Present

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

40 hours per week

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

\$87,332 annually

1875 Century Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30345

Supervisor: Diana Swan-Pinion, 404-679-7058, permission to contact

- Manage Wildlife Restoration and State Wildlife Grants grant approval and processing for Alabama, Kentucky, and Louisiana as well as Wildlife Restoration, Hunter Education, and Sport Fish Restoration grants for the US Virgin Islands and land acquisition grants for Arkansas and Mississippi
 - ❖ Review and process approximately 75 new grants, 70 grant amendments and 180 performance reports annually
 - ❖ Manage grant portfolio of approximately 200 open grant awards totaling more than \$200,000,000 annually
 - ❖ Cooperated with coworkers to develop guidance documents for regional implementation of revised grant requirements under 2 CFR 200
 - ❖ Oversaw pre-award, award and post-award monitoring of grants for Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and the US Virgin Islands wildlife and fisheries agencies
 - ❖ Responded to State inquiries regarding grant eligibility and legislative issues
 - ❖ Provided advice to program officials in Arkansas and Louisiana for crafting Emerging Issue letters and advised them on incorporating new threats/needs into State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) revision as required by grant program guidelines
 - ❖ Drafted letters in response to potential violations of grant agreements and grant program regulations under proposed state laws and regulations
 - ❖ Provide guidance to state grant coordinators related to Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR), State Wildlife Grants and Endangered Species program requirements including: Executive Orders, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act, National Historic Preservation Act and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (especially 50 CFR 80 and 2 CFR 200)
 - ❖ Review proposed grant projects for biological soundness, cost effectiveness, and compatibility with objectives of the WSFR program and other Service grant programs, as well as to provide advice and guidance to organizations requesting grants, and to evaluate the products of complex State research and study products

- ❖ Review State Wildlife Grant applications to ensure proposals are consistent with and eligible under the SWAP
- ❖ Served as WSFR program coordinator for 2015 Federal Aid Coordinators meeting in Tennessee
- ❖ Conducted field reviews and TRACS training for State staff in Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky and Louisiana
- Serve as the Region 4 lands specialist and representative on the National Lands Team
 - ❖ Served on Lands Team subgroup that developed land record reconciliation Best Management Practices and reconciliation protocols
 - ❖ Give presentations annually on multiple land acquisition, management, and monitoring at Region 4 Federal Aid Coordinators meeting
 - ❖ Developed spreadsheet and process to track post-FAIMS land records
 - ❖ Reconciled Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and the US Virgin Islands land records prior to their most recent audits
 - ❖ Developed draft framework for national programmatic agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- Served month-long detail as Acting Chief, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR), Region 2, US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - ❖ Supervised all facets of the regional WSFR, Endangered Species, and State Wildlife Grants programs
 - ❖ Worked on setting up a cooperative agreement with the state of Arizona for mitigation activities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF GAME MANAGEMENT

2/2011 to 10/2013

2070 US Highway 278 SE, Social Circle, GA 30025

\$63,162 annually

Supervisor: Mark Whitney, 770-918-6400, permission to contact

- Supervised and directed the preparation of written analyses, position papers, updates, briefing statements, and reports providing conclusions, options, and recommendations related to natural resource issues prepared by subordinate staff
- Supervised and provided guidance to subordinate staff, managed staff workload and assisted in work planning and scheduling, reviewed and provided feedback on the work others, identified areas for staff improvement, and assisted in staff development
- Maintained grant, investigation and accomplishment data using automated tracking systems such as iFAIMS and grantsonline as well as internal processes
- Monitored state legislative and policy initiatives for potential impacts to WSFR Program eligibility; briefed Director's office on issues of concern
- Reviewed Federal Register postings related to federal grant regulations and commented as necessary
- Maintained Game Management Section equipment inventory for grant and audit purposes
- Developed and Managed \$20 million Game Management Section budget
- Managed human resources processes for the Game Management Section
- Supervised the Hunter Education, Forest Management and Private Lands Programs and administrative staff (25 employees; total budget \$5 million)
- Supervised operation of 95 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) (nearly 1 million acres) statewide
- Oversaw the implementation and adaptation of an integrated forest inventory, monitoring, and management system for pine stands on Georgia WMAs that:
 - ❖ covered approximately 300,000 acres of state-owned lands
 - ❖ was on target to convert a statewide, 4-age class monoculture to a diverse 13-age class, multi-species inventory over a 40-year period
 - ❖ produced \$2 -\$4 million in timber revenue annually
 - ❖ helped restore longleaf and shortleaf pine populations while removing off-site/non-native pines

- Monitored statewide operations to ensure adherence to federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations designed to protect fish, wildlife and cultural resources
- Reviewed and edited 50-year management plans for state-owned WMAs
- Coordinated partnerships with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Forestry Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. military, and state universities
- Wrote NEPA documents and produced Endangered Species Act Section 7 documentation
- Coordinated with Historic Preservation Division on National Historic Preservation Act issues
- Reviewed environmental issues and documentation (Clean Water Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, etc.) for the Game Management Section
- Conducted interviews with national, state and local media on wildlife conservation issues
- Cooperated with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on regional land conservation and endangered species issues
- Worked with Georgia State Parks to implement managed deer hunts and establish archery ranges
- Worked to recruit urban residents to hunting, shooting, and other outdoor recreation opportunities
- Administered the Wildlife Restoration grant program for the state of Georgia
- Personally conducted all non-accounting aspects of the Wildlife Restoration grant cycle from application through final reports, including:
 - ❖ Prepared grant applications for all Federal Assistance funded projects
 - ❖ Processed grants for all Federal Assistance funded projects
 - ❖ Analyzed grant proposals to determine if they were in accordance with legislative criteria, biologically sound, and economically planned
 - ❖ Determined if grant proposals were in compliance with Departmental rules and regulations, Federal Assistance policy, Executive Orders, and other compliance requirements.
 - ❖ Inspected ongoing projects to ensure that development and/or use were in accordance with the approved project.
 - ❖ Prepared and reviewed performance and final reports to determine conformance with objectives
 - ❖ Resolved audit findings and instituted Corrective Action Plan requirements
- Provided guidance to agency leaders and program coordinators related to WSFR, State Wildlife Grants and Endangered Species grant program requirements including: Executive Orders, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act, National Historic Preservation Act and CFR (especially 2 CFR, 43 CFR, and 50 CFR 80)
- Developed grant activity policies and procedures to ensure staff adherence to program regulations
- Restructured Georgia's annual Wildlife Restoration Grants to improve efficiency and reduce paper work for both state and federal grant managers
- Developed and initiated a plan through state accounting staff that reduced uncertainty in producing grant match and tracking budgets for Wildlife Restoration grants and the Game Management Section budget
- Contributed to the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Hunting, Fishing and Wildlife Recreation Participation Committee
- Represented Wildlife Resources Division at public and technical meetings with State and Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations
- Administered the Wildlife Resources Division's statewide fuel storage program
- Served as headquarters representative to small game, black bear, and issues committees and recommended management actions based on internal data and state-funded external research
- Managed National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Farm Services Agency grants

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST I

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
142 Bob Kirk Road NW, Thomson, GA 30824

11/2005 to 1/2011
40 hours per week
\$44,785 annually

Supervisor: Vic VanSant (Retired), (b) (6), Permission to contact

- Provided technical assistance in 10 counties
- Served as primary contact for urban nuisance wildlife issues in metro Atlanta
- Supervised a Wildlife Technician II
- Planned, conducted and analyzed Wildlife Restoration funded activities and recreation opportunities on 8 WMAs totaling approximately 23,000 acres
- Wrote responses to more than 500 requests for information annually
- Spoke with more than 1000 constituents annually with questions about nuisance wildlife
- Coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on management of Clarks Hill WMA and the Richard B. Russell mitigation tracts.
- Served on bear, turkey and interagency Avian Vacuolar Myelinopathy committees and Search and Rescue Team
- Coordinated Region 3 regulation review and Special Permits inspections
- Conducted interviews with national, state and local media on wildlife conservation issues

TRANSPORTATION ECOLOGIST ASSOCIATE

Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services

9/2005 to 11/2005
40 hours per week
\$33,200 annually

One Georgia Center, 16th Floor, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30308

Supervisor: Lisa Westberry, (404) 631-1100, Permission to contact

- Wrote and reviewed ecology documents for Department of Transportation construction projects
- Coordinated with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service via early coordination letters, requests for Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act action and Section 7 coordination
- Authored write-offs for maintenance projects covered under Joint Coordination Procedures with Federal Highways Administration and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

SCIENCE TEACHER

Wartburg Central High School
1119 Knoxville Highway, Wartburg, TN 37887

8/2004 to 8/2005
40 hours per week
\$30,000 annually

Supervisor: Dallas Davis, (b) (6), Permission to contact

- Taught biology, ecology, and environmental science
- Served as head softball coach and assistant football coach

NATURE CENTER MANAGER

Bristol Tennessee Parks and Recreation Department
325 McDowell Street, Bristol, TN 37621

12/2003 to 8/2004
40 hours per week
\$30,000 annually

Supervisor: Mike Johnson, Permission to contact

- Managed Steele Creek Park Nature Center and supervised 2 naturalists
- Obtained Urban Forestry Grant to develop search and rescue, fire management, and hazard tree management plans for the 2200 acre park.

STOCK ROOM ASSOCIATE

Super Target
11100 Parkside Dr., Knoxville, TN 37934

10/2003 to 12/2003
32 hours per week
\$9 hourly

Supervisor: David White, Permission to contact

- Pulled products for stocking and back stocked excess product

ADJUNCT BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR
Hiwassee College
225 Hiwassee College Drive, Madisonville, TN 37354
Supervisor: Dr. Jim Wright, Permission to contact

8/2003 to 12/2003
20 hours per week
\$700 monthly

- Taught general biology lecture and lab

OWNER/OPERATOR
Nuisance Wildlife Control Business
Memphis, TN

9/1999 to 8/2003
60 hours per week

- Managed all business operations
- Educated urban homeowners about nuisance wildlife
- Trapped and relocated nuisance wildlife and performed exclusion services to prevent animal reentry

BIOLOGICAL SCIENTIST III
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
3900 Drane Field Road, Lakeland, FL 33811
Supervisor: Jimmy Conner, Permission to contact

7/1997 to 9/1999
40 hours per week
\$30,000 annually

- Served as lead biologist on the Lake Wales Ridge Wildlife and Environmental Area and the Kissimmee River WMA
- Implemented and reported on Wildlife Restoration grant activities on the Kissimmee River WMA
- Supervised a Biological Scientist II
- Developed and administered area budgets and purchasing activities
- Served as project leader for statewide archaeological resource monitoring on Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission properties
- Conducted environmental assessments of land to be purchased for the Lake Wales Ridge Wildlife and Environmental Area
- Managed 10,000 acres of scrub habitat for 20 federally-listed species (16 plants, 4 animals)
- Monitored population levels of scrub jays, sand skinks, blue-tail mole skinks, and scrub lizards
- Served on the Central Florida Interagency Prescribed Fire Council, working on urban interface fire issues
- Served on the Lake Wales Ridge Interpretive Planning Work Group

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE SCIENCE
Thesis: "Population Dynamics of Black Bears in Great Smoky Mountains National Park"
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Knoxville, TN 37996; (May, 1995)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
MINOR IN BIOLOGY
Virginia Tech
210 Burruss Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061; (May, 1990)

TRAINING

US Fish and Wildlife Service Stepping Up to Leadership Program	Ongoing
Management of Oil and Gas Activities on National Wildlife Refuge System Lands	July 2015
2 CFR 200 Update Course	July 2014
Delivering Inspired Service Course	June 2014
Valuation of Conservation Easements Course	May 2014
Conservation Banking Course	December 2013

FBMS and EMIS Training	November 2013
WSFR Lands Course	May 2013
Carl Vinson Institute of Government Facilitator Training	January 2013
WSFR Project Leaders Course	January 2012
Georgia Class A/B Underground Storage Tank Operator Certification	December 2011
WSFR Advanced Grants Management	October 2011
Equal Access to Government Programs (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Satellite Training)	September 2011
WSFR Basic Grants Management	August 2011
Erosion and Sedimentation Control Level 1A Certification	April 2010
Georgia DOT Hazardous Materials Training	January 2008
Prescribed Burn Manager Course	December 2007
ICS-15, ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-700	October 2007
Swift Water Awareness and High Angle Awareness	January 2007
Chemical Immobilization of Animals (conducted by Safe-Capture, Inc.)	September 2006
Fundamentals of Search and Rescue	August 2006
I-100, S-130, S-190, & L-180 (conducted by Georgia Forestry Commission)	January 2006
Wetland Plant Identification (conducted by Biotic Consultants, Inc.)	October 2005
Florida Interagency Prescribed Fire School	February 1998
Florida Archaeological Resource Monitor Training	September 1997

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

PUBLICATIONS

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